CAUSES

Of a Solemn National Fast *and* Humiliation, *unanimously agreed upon by the Commission appointed by the late General Assembly, met at* Edinburgh *the 3d of* December, 1696.

THE *Commissioners* appointed by the late General Assembly of this National Church, Considering the Displeasure and Wrath of GOD on this Land, visible in the Judgment of frequent Sickness, and great Mortality, Dearth inflicted, and Famine threatned; many being in a starving Condition, and imminent hazard by a continued War; The LORD being highly provoked by the abounding and bold Sinning of this Generation and great Security under the same, without due Sense, and feeling such as *Atheism* and *Blasphemy*; the commission of many abominations without shame or blushing: To wit, abominable Uncleanness, Drunkenness, Swearing, Lying, and Blood touching Blood by frequent *Murders*, our *Apostacy* and Defection from the LORD and his way, notwithstanding of our solemn Vows and Obligations to GOD; The unfruitfulness under Gospel Dispensations, and the contempt thereof, our mis-improvements of, and unthankfulness for our late Deliverance, and GODS long forbearance towards us; Notwithstanding of the wicked and *cruel* designs of *Enemies* against our Religion, King and Countrey; the *Excess* and *Riot* of some, while many others are under great straits, the abounding of these and many other Sins among all ranks, in City, Countrey and Army; And although that in former Fasts there hath been a particular enumeration of many of the Nations Sins; yet few have been duely humbled for the same; and few have joyned suitable Reformation with their professed Humiliation: *For these* and many other Causes, we judge it the Duty of the people of this Church and Kingdom, to humble themselves by *Fasting*, and to pour out fervent Prayers to GOD, that he in mercy would prevent and avert feared and threatned Wrath and remove present Judgments; may be graciously reconciled to us, and may preserve our Religion, King and Countrey, from the *Machinations* of our Enemies, and may pour out plentifully of his Spirit upon all ranks of Persons, which would give a door of Hope of his yet stay and dwelling in our Land.

EDINBURGH,
Printed by the Heirs and Successors of [illegible] Anderson, Printer to
[illegible] most excellent Majesty, ANNO M, 1696.